

Bus Plunges 40 Feet Off Bridge in Oakland; Seven Killed, 22 Hurt

OAKLAND, Calif., Oct. 29.—A crowded Greyhound bus hit a loose block of concrete on a bridge approach yesterday and plunged down 40 feet, killing seven and injuring 22.

The slab of concrete was torn from an abutment on the San Francisco Bay Bridge approach by another automobile accident three minutes earlier.

The bus blew a tire, careened across the roadway and smashed through a concrete and steel safety railing. It teetered a moment, then toppled to railway tracks 40 feet below.

Then, said Charles B. Taylor, who lived nearby:

"People were screaming, 'Get me out... for God's sake get me out.'"

"One woman kept shouting: 'Turn off the ignition before we all blow up.'"

Priests Say Rites.

The crumpled bus lay upside down, flattened so badly some of its moaning injured were trapped for nearly two hours.

A priest said final rites for the dead as rescuers cut and pried out the living and the dead.

Of the 29 persons aboard only Air Force Lt. John R. Haber, 24, of Camp Stoneman, Calif., was able to walk away from the hospital after treatment for cuts and bruises.

Twelve of the injured were reported in critical condition.

The almost unbelievable sequence started when a passenger car knocked a huge hunk of concrete onto the roadway shortly before the bus hove into sight from the opposite direction.

The loaded bus, inbound for the Oakland bus depot after a night run from Salt Lake City, smashed the concrete block, blew a tire and went out of control. It ripped out a section of the stout retaining rail and fell into the darkness below.

The impact as the bus landed was so violent that its top was smashed down to seat level. Every seat was beaten to the floor.

Bus Driver Vane E. Elshire of Sacramento, Calif., was one of the dead.

Early in the morning, boatswain Mate Orville Ruffell, 26, left his Richmond home to wake up the Navy cooks at Treasure Island.

Sailor Critically Injured.

He drove onto the MacArthur Boulevard distribution ramp and, for reasons still unexplained, his car struck a concrete dividing abutment. Two big pieces of concrete were knocked into the adjacent traffic lanes as his car swerved along for 114 feet and turned over. He was injured critically.

Passing motorists were trying to free Russell when the bus bore down on the scene. Scarcely in its path lay one of the concrete blocks, a chunk nearly four feet long and a foot and a half thick.

Highway patrolmen said Mr. Elshire apparently tried to straddle the concrete block, but it was too high. The left front tire blew out. As the bus careened, it tore out 40 feet of rail railing before going off the ramp.

It struck in the Key System rail yards 40 feet below.

13 Injured as Auto Forces Bus Off Road

CAMBRIDGE, Ohio, Oct. 29 (AP).—An auto running without headlights forced a bus off route 40, 2 miles east of Winterset early today. Thirteen passengers were hurt.

Bus Driver Caleb Burley, 42, of Columbus said he swerved his bus to avoid the car and ran into a ditch. The car kept going.

Three of the four most seriously hurt were servicemen returning to Camp Atterbury, Ind.

They were Joseph Hurni, 22; Benedict Luberto, 23, and Edward Defazio, 22. The fourth seriously injured passenger was Barnett Tempkin, 67, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

1,400 Marines Quarantined

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Oct. 29 (AP).—About 1,400 Marines and 100 sailors were quarantined today aboard the Army transport Mellette in San Juan Harbor because of an outbreak of dysentery, the Navy announced. Forty hospitalized cases were reported aboard.

Cooke School PTA Barzaar

The H. D. Cooke School Parent-Teacher Association will hold its annual barzaar from 3 to 9 p.m. Friday, in the school hall, Seventeenth and Euclid streets N.W.

Yoshida Says Japan Needs Recovery to Arm

TOKYO, Oct. 29.—Japan should not rearm as long as she cannot stand on her own economic feet, Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida said before the upper house special committee on treaties today.

He made the statement in defense of the United States-Japan security pact. He said the pact was concluded to preserve Japan's independence and was not forced upon the country.

Heads Jewish Group

DES MOINES, Oct. 29 (AP).—Harold A. Goldman, Des Moines, yesterday was elected president of the west central regional conference of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

Liberals Promise Aid To Tories, but Reject Place in Cabinet

LONDON, Oct. 29.—The Liberals conditionally promised their six House of Commons votes last night to bolster the narrow Conservative majority, but Liberal Leader Clement Davies said "no" to a cabinet bid from Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

The Liberals said their six members would swell the Tories' 18-Churchill Won't Undo All Socialist Program, Bertrand Russell Says. Page A-12

seat majority on "measures clearly conceived in the interest of the country as a whole."

Mr. Davies, however, after a second week end conference with Mr. Churchill, announced he "felt unable to accept" the Conservative leader's offer of a post in the cabinet, the new prime minister still was forming.

Therian Envoy Called Back.

As his first move in his new post, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden today directed Britain's ambassador in Tehran to return to London immediately for consultations on the Anglo-Iranian oil row.

The recall of Sir Francis Shephard presumably means that Mr. Eden is seeking a way to reopen the stalled negotiations with Iran.

Mr. Churchill has named eight key members to his government and hopes to complete the lineup before parliament reconvenes Wednesday.

Cabinet Posts Filled.

Besides Mr. Eden, Mr. Churchill already has named to his cabinet Lord Woolton, Lord President of the Council; R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Lord Ismay, commonwealth relations; the Marquess of Salisbury, Lord Privy Seal; Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, Home Secretary; Sir Walter Monckton, labor; and Oliver Lytton, colonies.

Others mentioned for government posts were Brendan Bracken, former minister of information and first lord of the admiralty; Lord Leathers, wartime minister of transport; Sir John Anderson, former chancellor of the exchequer; Geoffrey Lloyd, former secretary for mines, and such younger Tories as David Eccles, building expert Ernest Marples and Duncan Sandys, Mr. Churchill's son-in-law.

White House Silent On Churchill Rumors

The White House declined to comment today on the widespread rumors and speculations that there may be an early meeting of President Truman and Winston Churchill, back in again as British Prime Minister.

Presidential Secretary Joseph Short said in response to a question that the only communication he knew of between the President and Mr. Churchill was Mr. Truman's message of congratulations to the British statesman on his election. He didn't know whether Mr. Churchill had sent a reply.

India Gives Big Welcome To Chinese Communists

NEW DELHI, India, Oct. 29.—A Chinese Communist cultural delegation arrived here today and Prime Minister Nehru sent his daughter Indira to greet them.

The Indian government laid out the red carpet for the visitors in a move generally interpreted as a first step in an officially sponsored campaign for closer ties with Peking.

Ting Si-ling, Red China's vice minister of cultural affairs, headed the 21-man delegation.

Top-ranking officials of India's foreign affairs ministry, and K. M. Panikkar, Indian Ambassador to Peking, were also on hand in the welcoming group. Cheering the arrival were 100 members of the Communist-sponsored Indo-Chinese Friendship League. They wore red arm bands, waved red flags and shouted praise for Mao Tse-tung and the Red China government.

The delegation will spend six weeks in India, including a five weeks tour sponsored by the Indian government.

Narcotics Raids Lead To Four Arrests Here

Police arrested three persons described as known drug addicts and picked up another man on a narcotics charge over the week end.

Acting on a tip that a dope sale was to be made in the 1400 block of Fifteenth street N.W., narcotics squad detectives watched the transaction.

They arrested Pedro J. Casbarian, 26, of the 1100 block of New Hampshire avenue N.W. and Edna Elizabeth Judd, 23, of Annandale, Va., and charged them with violating the narcotics laws. Laura E. Platt, 38, of the 1400 block of Rhode Island avenue N.W., was charged with vagrancy.

In another case police arrested Richard Pinn, 32, of the 600 block of M street N.W. on narcotics charges. They said they found two capsules of heroin in his possession.

B-29 Crashes, Burns; Crew of 11 Escapes

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Oct. 29.—A B-29 crashed at McClellan Air Force Base last night, spun around, ground looped, broke in two and caught fire.

The 11 men aboard escaped with injuries. But a civilian fireman dropped dead of a heart attack while helping put out the flames.

Names of all 12 were withheld. Two crewmen were reported in serious condition. Injuries of the other nine were described as minor.

The Federal Spotlight

Federal Employees Unions Plan New Drive For Raise in 1952

By Joseph Young

Unless living costs stop their upward climb, Government employee leaders are planning another Federal pay raise drive next year.

With the ink from President Truman's signature hardly dry on legislation giving Government employees a \$300 to \$800 a year raise, some of the employee groups already are mapping strategy for another pay raise campaign next year.

The AFL Government Employees Council, which represents unions with a membership of more than 500,000 Federal classified and postal workers, will hold a special meeting late next month to decide a future course of action on the pay legislation.

A top spokesman of the council said that despite the new pay raise voted by Government employees, the purchasing power of Federal employees still lags considerably below the 1939 level.

"While we appreciate very much the pay raises voted us by Congress, it wasn't enough, and we feel that unless some check is placed on rising living costs, we will have no alternative but to ask Congress next year for another pay raise," the official said.

"If we were already caught up with the increase in the cost of living, then it wouldn't be so bad," he continued. "But we still have a lot of catching up to do."

Council officials decline to say how much of a raise they might ask for next year. They say they probably will wait to see what the cost-of-living index will be in December or January before deciding how much to ask for.

BOYS WILL BE BOYS—Civil Service Commissioner Frances Perkins has taken Government officials to task for insisting that their secretaries and stenographers be easy on the eyes. The search for glamour is one of the reasons for the current shortage of secretaries and stenographers in Government, she says.

If the boys really want to fill the jobs, there are plenty of older and not quite so good-looking women around who would make perfectly competent stenographers. Miss Perkins declares. The combination of competence and beauty is sometimes hard to find. Government bureaucrats were told.

ANOTHER DECLINE—For the second straight month, Government employment in Washington declined. Last month Federal agencies reduced employment by 4,400, reducing the total in the executive branch to 249,957. Government employment throughout the country dropped by 10,900, to a new total of 2,503,100. Sizeable reductions were made in the Veterans' Administration and the General Services Administration.

HIRING—The Civil Service

Commission has taken nine types of Federal jobs off the list of positions for which Federal agencies may hire directly. This is because civil service registrars with qualified applicants have now been established.

The jobs for which direct recruitment is now barred include blueprint operators, blueprint and photostat operators, lithographic draftsmen, microphotographers, miscellaneous duplicating-machine operators, miscellaneous office-appliance operators, office-appliance repairmen, photostat operators and telephone operators.

The position of supply specialist-storage officer was added to the list for which direct recruitment is allowed.

INTERNAL REVENUE—The Civil Service Commission may recommend to Congress when it reconvenes in January that collectors of Internal Revenue be placed under civil service. Commissioner Frances Perkins the other day in a speech asked that this be done and Commissioner James Mitchell on our radio broadcast over WMAL last Saturday night also advocated it.

Commission officials feel that the current scandals in the Internal Revenue Bureau reflect unfavorably against the great bulk of employees there who are civil servants and who are unquestionably honest. Miss Perkins pointed out in her speech that in practically every case of misfeasance and dishonesty in Government the culprit is a political appointee rather than a career employee.

GPO—Under authority granted him by Congress, Public Printer John J. Devney has ordered \$300 to \$800 a year pay raises retroactive to July 8 for 1,400 white collar workers in the Government Printing Office. The raises will be on the same basis as those given to the rest of the Government's classified employees.

Plumbers' Strike Halts Atom Construction Job

OAK RIDGE, Tenn., Oct. 29.—Construction on a vital atomic plan defense project was halted today by an AFL plumbers' strike.

The plumbers posted pickets in defiance of orders of their international union president. For the third straight day, hundreds of AFL workers honored the picket lines.

The Atomic Energy Commission announced that the project was shutting down because of lack of workers. A handful of carpenters and laborers showed up, but they were sent home.

The plumbers walked off the jobs last Tuesday in a jurisdictional squabble with the carpenters over a work assignment.

Unionists Picket Benny, Listen to His Show

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—They picketed Jack Benny yesterday, but while the pickets walked back and forth on the sidewalk they listened to the Jack Benny show over a portable radio.

In addition to the radio, the pickets carried a sign reading: "Jack Benny patronizes the non-union Hillcrest Country Club."

Officials of two AFL unions, the Building Service Employees and the Culinary Workers, said Mr. Benny has been crossing their picket lines at the club. Mr. Benny belongs to the AFL Screen Actors' Guild.

Report Due Shortly On Death of Doctor Robbed by 3 Girls

LYNN, Mass., Oct. 29.—Authorities today withheld opinion in the death of Dr. Albert H. Covner of Nahant, pending a pathological report.

The 54-year-old heart specialist was found dead in North Reading woods Saturday, 10 days after three teen-aged baby sitters took \$18,000 from a strong box in his home for a big-time spending spree.

Medical Examiner Thomas P. Devlin of Stoneham said the cause of death would not be known until an examination is completed on Dr. Covner's vital organs. He said the verdict may be made by tomorrow.

Police said a small bottle of nitro-glycerine, a heart stimulant, was found near the body and several types of pills were in his pockets.

Had Heart Ailment.

One authority said the absence of any notes gives rise to a theory that Dr. Covner—known to be suffering from a heart ailment—may have suffered a heart seizure and turned into the wooded lane.

The spot is about 20 miles from Dr. Covner's home but only a short distance from the cemetery where his parents are buried.

The physician was buried near his parents yesterday.

Meanwhile, the three girls who admitted taking the money—Roberta McCauley, 15, Eileen Jeffrey, 17, and Marilyn Curran, 16—are being held in New York following their arrest there several days ago.

Girls Face Charges.

The McCauley girl is being held for juvenile court action while the two other girls face grand larceny charges. All three also are material witnesses against two young men, one charged with raping Roberta and both charged with impairing the morals of a minor.

The girls said they spent \$3,000 for clothes and lost the other \$15,000 to three sharpies they met in a night club.

Mrs. Covner said her husband was "terribly upset" about the entire matter, particularly because of several "disturbing" telephone calls he received about it.

The Weather Here and Over the Nation

District of Columbia—Sunny, row cloudy and milder, followed by showers in west portion by afternoon.

Night fair, low 38 degrees in city and frost in suburbs. Tomorrow cloudy and milder with showers in night.

Maryland—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

row cloudy and milder, followed by showers in west portion by afternoon.

Virginia—Fair with frost in interior; low 32-38 degrees in interior and 40-45 degrees on coast. Tomorrow cloudy and milder with showers in west portion by night.

North Carolina—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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South Carolina—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Georgia—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Florida—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Alabama—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Mississippi—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Louisiana—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Arkansas—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Oklahoma—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Kansas—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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Nebraska—Fair with frost; low 30-34 degrees in west and 32-38 in east portion tonight. Tomorrow-

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